



CITY of BEAVERTON

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FREE TAX HELP AVAILABLE THROUGH CITY'S BEAVERTON CARES PROGRAM

- Tax Filing Classes for Residents; Tax Credit Help for Low and Middle Income Families -

Beaverton, Oregon (March 9, 2010) – The City of Beaverton's Beaverton Cares program is making free tax help available to area residents and encouraging eligible low- and middle-income families to take advantage of the Earned Income Tax Credit. Tax classes will be held at the Beaverton City Library (12375 SW 5th Street) and preparation assistance will be available at the library and the Elsie Stuhr Center (5550 SW Hall Blvd.) in March and April. Reservations are required.

Eligible low-income working families may be entitled to up to \$5,600 in tax refunds, but according to the Internal Revenue Service only about a quarter of those eligible for the federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) file for it. The IRS reports that when those eligible do not file, the result is the loss of millions of dollars for low-income Oregonians and for thousands of eligible low-income families across the nation.

"For many deserving families, EITC is too often a tax refund opportunity lost," said Beaverton Mayor Denny Doyle. "We want to help change that. My goal is to ensure that more of our citizens receive the credit so that money stays in our community."

FREE TAX PREPARATION AND ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Creating Assets, Savings and Hope (CASH), in partnership with AARP Tax-Aide, provides tax preparation and filing free year-round to thousands of low- and middle-income families and individuals throughout the Portland-Metro area. There are two Beaverton locations set up through April 15:

Beaverton City Library, by appointment only (503) 644-2197:

Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Tuesdays, Fridays & Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Elsie Stuhr Center, by appointment only (503) 614-4004:

Thursdays, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Fridays, 9 a.m. to noon & 1 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

- more -

FREE TAX FILING TIPS CLASSES AT THE LIBRARY

Through the Beaverton Cares program and in cooperation with Liberty Tax Service, the City of Beaverton is also offering free tax preparation workshops. Workshops will be held at the Beaverton City Library.

Please RSVP via e-mail to neighbormail@ci.beaverton.or.us or call the Neighborhood Office at (503) 526-2380. Thank you to Liberty Tax Service for donating time to teach this workshop series.

Wednesday, March 17

3 to 4 p.m. General Tax Tips, Determining Filing Status
4 to 5 p.m. Tax Implication of Job loss, Short Sales, or Foreclosure

Saturday, March 27

9 to 10 a.m. General Tax Tips, Determining Filing Status
10 to 11 a.m. Earned Income Credits/Dependent Care Expenses/Education Credits

Saturday, April 3

2 to 3 p.m. Earned Income Credits/Dependent Care Expenses/Education Credits
3 to 4 p.m. Self Employment/Seniors 50 Plus Tax Tips/Tax Issues Regarding Stocks,
Bonds & Retirement

BEAVERTON CARES

The Beaverton Cares program seeks to raise awareness of human needs issues in the community and to seek collaborative solutions. Since its launch in June 2009, highlights of the program include three emergency food distributions in partnership with the Oregon Food Bank and the Giving Garden project that provided more than 1,500 pounds of fresh produce to local food pantries. For more information, please contact Lani Parr at (503) 526-2243 or visit www.BeavertonOregon.gov/BeavertonCares.

ABOUT BEAVERTON

Beaverton was recently named the **safest city in the Northwest** for the third consecutive year. Among other accolades, Beaverton was also lauded as one of the **Best Places to Raise Kids in America by BusinessWeek** magazine, one of the **Top 100 Best Places to Live in America by Money** magazine, an **All-America City finalist in 2005**, is recognized by the Environmental Protection Agency as a **Green Power Community** and is designated as a **Bronze Award Bicycle Friendly Community** by the League of American Bicyclists. Beaverton also enjoys the most diverse population (by percentage of population) among Oregon cities.

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